

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

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DRAFTED BY ARA/PAN/JWHITING
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TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: US, PN, OGEN

SUBJECT: PERIODIC ACTIVITIES REPORT, MAY 20-26

1. PRESIDENTIAL VISIT. WE HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED NSC COMMENTS ON THE SCOPE PAPER. DRAFT BACKGROUND PAPERS HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE NSC FOR COMMENT AND WE ARE GATHERING MATERIAL FOR THE PRESS KITS. THE PROPOSED DECLARATION OF PANAMA IS STILL UNDER DISCUSSION. STATE HAS MADE ITS RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE WHITE HOUSE ON THE OFFICIAL PARTY; BUT WE DO NOT YET HAVE A FINALLY APPROVED LIST OF NAMES.

2. AGREEMENT ON ASSISTANCE PACKAGE. A DRAFT NOTE COVERING THE ECONOMIC AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE PACKAGE OUTLINED IN THE SECRETARY'S SEPTEMBER 7 NOTE HAS NOW BEEN CLEARED BY STATE, AID, OPIC, EXIM AND TREASURY, AND WILL BE TRANSMITTED SHORT-
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LY FOR EMBASSY COMMENTS.

3. CEMETERIES. FOLLOWING A THURSDAY MEETING WITH DOD, ARA/PAN AND ARA/LA ARE STUDYING A DRAFT AGREEMENT PREPARED BY THE BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION TO COVER THEIR OPERATION OF COROZAL CEMETERY. WE WERE TOLD THAT AN ESTIMATED 75 OF THE TASK OF LOCATING THE NEXT OF KIN OF THE 4200 AMERICANS WHOSE

REMAINS ARE IN CANAL ZONE CEMETERIES IS COMPLETED. AS A
RESULT OF DOD AND PANAMA CANAL FORWARD PLANNING WE ARE HOPE-

FUL THAT: 1) IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR A JOINT ANNOUNCE-
FUL THAT: 1) IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR A JOINT ANNOUNCE-
MENT TO BE MADE DURING THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT SETTING FORTH
THE INTENTION TO NEGOTIATE A CEMETERY AGREEMENT, AND 2)
THAT AN AGREEMENT COULD BE NEGOTIATED IN PANAMA SOMETIME
THIS SUMMER.

4. DRAFT OMB MEMO ON PCC: A NEW DRAFT OMB MEMO WAS CIR-
CULATED ON THURSDAY AND DEPARTMENT COMMENTS CLARIFYING
ITS POSITION HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED.

5. BUSINESSMEN AND DEVELOPMENT: A GROUP OF APPROXIMATE-
LY 30 US BUSINESSMEN MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
AMERICAS WILL VISIT PANAMA JUNE 21-23, TO DISCUSS FUTURE
DEVELOPMENT PLANS WITH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR OFFI-
CIALS, INCLUDING GENERAL TORRIJOS. THE TALKS WILL TAKE
PLACE ON CONTADORA ISLAND.

6. OASGA CANAL RESOLUTIONS: ARA/PAN AND ARA/LA ARE WORK-
ING WITH USOAS ON TWO PREPOSED RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERA-
TION AT THE 8TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE OAS STARTING JUNE
21 IN WASHINGTON. THE RESOLUTIONS WOULD AUTHORIZE THE
SECRETARY GENERAL TO BE THE DEPOSITORY OF INSTRUMENTS OF
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ACCESSION TO THE NEUTRALITY TREATY (PER ARTICLE III) AND,
AS WAS THE CASE WITH THE SEPTEMBER 7 DECLARATION OF
WASHINGTON, AFFORD THE OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY THE OPPORTUN-
ITY TO CONGRATULATE THE US AND PANAMA AND TO TAKE SOME
CREDIT FOR THE CANAL TREATY. VANCE

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